



**CITY OF CARLSBAD**  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Office of the Chief of Police

**NEWS FROM THE CITY OF CARLSBAD POLICE DEPARTMENT**

*For immediate release*

**Carlsbad Police Participate in Statewide Shoulder Tap Operation**

March 16, 2012

Crime/Incident:	Statewide Shoulder Tap Operation	Case:	None
Date:	March 16, 2012	Time:	2245hrs
Location:	Carlsbad		
Suspect 1:		Age:	
Suspect 2:		Age:	
Victim 1:		Age:	
Victim 2:		Age:	

**Summary:**

Officers from the Carlsbad Police Department and Investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) joined forces with over 90 law enforcement agencies on Friday, March 16, 2012 in the largest Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation ever assembled in California.

Carlsbad Police Officers and ABC Investigators conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which can lead to the arrest of adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer stood outside a liquor or convenience store and asked patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicated in some way that he or she was underage and could not purchase the alcohol.

If the adults agreed to purchase alcohol for the minor, officers would then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty for furnishing alcohol to a minor is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

During the operation, 44 adults were contacted in Carlsbad and none of them agreed to purchase alcohol for the decoys.

The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. According to the American Medical Association, underage drinking can increase chances of risky sexual behavior and teen pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, compromise health, and result in unintentional injury and death.

This operation was grant funded by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control, sponsored by the Governor's Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

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